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CONGRESS APPROVES GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR 29 JUNE

PY121311 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Jan 80 PY

[Text] The citizenry will go to the polls again on 29 June to elect the president, vice president, senators and deputies, according to a decision by the National Congress, which approved a resolution early this morning ordering the holding of general elections. The present legislators will continue their mandates until the next legislature holds its first sessions. During its first 30 sessions, the newly elected legislature will function as a constituent convention to study reforms of the Constitution.

The resolution, approved by an immense majority, was written after long meetings held by the Congress party blocs during most of the day. For that reason the Congress, summoned for 1500, could not begin its session until 2220, and after a debate of 4 and 1/2 hours the Congress approved the resolution and rejected another, which had been submitted by the Christian Democratic Party. The text of the approved resolution reads as follows: The honorable National Congress resolves:

1. To amend the terms of the Congress resolution of 6 August 1979 to read that the national elections in 1980 shall also be for senators and deputies.

2. During the first 30 effective sessions the senators and deputies will gather as a constituent convention for the purpose of studying the constitutional reforms which may be necessary. At the end of the constituent convention, senators and deputies will continue their task as a regular congress.

3. In order to implement the two preceding articles, the executive branch shall immediately call elections for president and vice president of the republic, senators and deputies; the elections will be held on 29 June 1980.

4. In accordance with Article 57 of the Constitution, the senators and deputies who were elected in July 1979 will continue exercising their mandates until the time when the new legislature begins its preparatory sessions.

5. When the new municipality organization law has been promulgated, the executive branch will call elections to constitutionalize the municipal administration.

Another resolution was submitted by the Christian Democrats with the support of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party. This resolution was, however, rejected.

General Satisfaction Over Electoral Decision

PY121816 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpt] The Congress' resolution that followed a long meeting and hot debates has been received with satisfaction by the entire social and political body of the country. Many political and labor leaders have expressed their optimism that the continuity and strengthening of democracy is thus being guaranteed. Some people in less politically interested sectors said, however, that the country will lose much money in these new elections, to which the majority replied that the people lose much more under dictatorial regimes. A quick analysis of the opinion poll which has been taken shows that there is general agreement with the call to general elections and that the decision, worthy of the Bolivian Congress, to some extent restores its constitutional prestige, which had been somewhat tarnished lately.

PRESIDENT GUEILER COMMENTS ON CABINET SESSION, COUP RUMORS

PY111322 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 0200 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Lidia Gueiler prefers to die rather than live without democracy. The president of the country categorically said so, when she warned coup planners and spreaders of coup rumors that they will have to pass over her dead body before destroying the democracy existing in the country. Mrs Gueiler said that last night's Cabinet meeting discussed the political situation of the country and that Gen Luis Garcia Meza, commander of the Gualberto Villarroel Military School in La Paz, confirmed to the president that the armed forces support the democratic process.

When referring to the origin of the insistent coup rumors, President Gueiler said: [Begin recording] Let them talk. [passage indistinct] It is the wish of this government to give tranquility to this country. But there are people who undoubtedly have nothing else to do but comment on the coup problems. We will take the first one who talks and find out the origin of his news and there will be punishments because (tranquility) must not be played with. [end recording]

Army Command Denies Rumors

PY110250 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 0200 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY

[Text] The public relations department of the Army General Command released a document today denying rumors of subversive activity involving military chiefs. The Army General Command reiterates that Gen Eden Castillo Galarza, Gen Luis Garcia Meza and Col Mario Vargas have the confidence of the military High Command and members of the army.

Reyes Villa Denies Coup

PY121429 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Jan 80 PY

[Text] The commander in chief of the armed forces has denied that there are any coup preparations in the military institution, thus answering a question asked by Radio Panamericana regarding the earlier denial made by Gen Luis Garcia Meza. Gen Armando Reyes Villa said that the statements of the military school commander were perfectly true. Gen Armando Reyes Villa said that there is no armed forces coup, adding jokingly that maybe the newsmen would like to make a coup. Reyes Villa also made remarks regarding his impressions during a recent tour of military garrisons in eastern Bolivia, where he found total unity and support for the armed forces. [as heard] Let us listen to his statements, made after a meeting with President Lidia Gueiler Tejada:

[Begin recording] It has been a positive trip. We have found that there is unity in all garrisons there. They have assured us of their support [words indistinct], because they are a disciplined institution. Nevertheless, they have expressed their support of the armed forces. [end recording]

The question was obligatory: The strong rumors of a military coup have created a psychosis among Bolivian people, so it is necessary to learn the official version of the commander in chief of the armed forces: [Begin Reyes recording] Well, we have reported the truth. I do not know of the problem. It is said that General Garcia Meza has made a statement, and it seems to me that it was positive and that he told the truth that there will be no coup by the armed forces. Maybe you newsmen want to make a coup? [laughter]

[Question] General, what can you tell us about the reinstatement of General Banzer and other officers who had been discharged?

[Answer] Look here, I do not know if you will understand me. It is a reinstatement for the sole purpose of legalizing their position within the armed forces. When an officer is discharged for any reason, he is later reinstated in order to enjoy his social benefits from our [word indistinct] organization to which he has made contributions. He is then passed to the active reserve or to the retirement category in order to request his pension. This has been done not only with this group but also with many others who are now congressmen, many of whom are officers who had been in retirement for many years after being discharged. They have also been reinstated and passed to active reserve, only in order to legalize their situation. [end recording]

When asked about the situation of officers who participated in the 1 November civilian-military coup, the commander in chief of the armed forces gave this reply: [Begin recording] Well, in fact I have come to pacify the armed forces. To me all the officers are equal. For me there is no (?discrimination), there are no labels of coupists or other dissidents. They are just officers from who I demand discipline and work, and they will work for the institution and, above all, for the fatherland. [end recording]

BANZER, OTHERS REINSTATED INTO ARMY

PY111414 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpt] In a general army order the armed forces have confirmed the reinstatement of Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez and 23 other officers into the military institution. The reinstatements had been approved between January and December last year; that of General Banzer is dated 3 September 1979. Among the reinstated officers are General Rene Bernal Escalante, Alfonso Villalpando Armaza, (Luis Antonio Requeteran) and (Jaime Paz Doldan Pol); Colonels (Manuel Cara de Arasmayo), (Samuel Gallardo Lozada), (Arsenio Gonzalez Rojas) and Maj Ruben Sanchez (Valdivia).

COB Leader Criticizes Reinstatements

PY112057 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpts] The executive secretary of the Bolivian Labor Central [COB] has criticized the reinstatement into the military of several officers, including Banzer Suarez, Villalpando, Bernal and others. In statements to the local press, Mr Juan Lechin Oquendo said that General Banzer's reinstatement into the armed forces is a challenge and a provocation to the Bolivian people. [passage indistinct] Juan Lechin Oquendo harshly lashed out at General Banzer Suarez, linking his administration to the origin and cause of the serious economic crisis the Bolivian people are now enduring.

Lechin Oquendo said that General Banzer's return to the armed forces should serve the working people as a call to be alert since it can be considered a provocation to the people, the labor leader and highest COB official repeated. Then asked if the military decision would lead to a COB mobilization, Lechin said that perhaps it would not be worthwhile, adding and urging that the people should be on the alert in view of this provocation.

FINANCE MINISTER: BRAZIL WILLING TO SELL GRAIN TO USSR

PY121336 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1050 GMT 12 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Finance Minister Karlos Rischbieter stated in Sao Paulo that the government is closely watching the diplomatic relations between the United States and the USSR in view of the Afghanistan crisis. He indicated that Brazil can take advantage of the situation resulting from the boycott imposed by the United States on Russia regarding the sale of grains. In this case Brazil would sell grains, especially soybeans, to the USSR.

According to Rischbieter, it would be one of the few times that the country took advantage of an international situation, because Brazil has derived no benefit from the crises of the past few years.

The finance minister once again insisted that the ministers of the economic area should be replaced if the government's goals are not achieved, especially that of combatting inflation. "It is for the good of the country," he stressed.

Just before returning to Brasilia, Rischbieter admitted that there were certain disagreements between himself and the planning minister, Delfim Netto, "which does not imply," he stressed, "a disagreement in carrying out the government's economic policy."

COMMENTATOR HAILS ARGENTINE DECISION NOT TO JOIN BOYCOTT

PY111349 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY

[Newton Carlos commentary]

[Text] Condemning Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Argentina has, however, decided not to participate in the economic boycott against the Soviet Union which was initiated and supported by the United States.

The Argentine decision is important. Argentina is one of the main grain producers in the world. Concerning the political implications of the Argentine decision, we can say that even military regimes [words indistinct] like Argentina declines participation in an economic boycott against the Soviet Union.

By refusing to participate, Argentina is admonishing the United States, saying that Argentina has never been a last-minute supporter and has never participated in decisions made by foreign circles of power. With this, the Argentine Government kills two birds with a single shot.

After being pressured by the United States regarding respect for human rights, Argentina has maintained an objective [word indistinct], a pragmatic policy regarding the Soviet Union, today Argentina's greatest trade partner, with negotiations amounting to $500 million annually. The Soviet Union is the main purchaser of Argentine grains and the only corn purchaser with an order for 7 million tons.

The Argentine refusal to participate in the economic boycott against the Soviet Union sponsored by the United States has been announced through an official communique. But Argentina will participate in the meeting to be held in the United States to study this boycott. The Argentine delegate will probably reiterate the remarks included in the official communique, remarks which must be quite uncomfortable for the Americans.

THREE MILLION TONS OF WHEAT TO BE IMPORTED FROM CANADA

PY111748 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY

[Text] An agreement for the import of three million tons of wheat has been signed between Brazil and Canada. Agriculture Minister Amaury Stabile, who signed the agreement for Brazil, stated that the supply of wheat for 1980 has been guaranteed. The first two million tons must arrive between April and November. The transaction totals approximately $600 million.

IRAQ GUARANTEES OIL SUPPLY IN TIMES OF CRISIS

PY111245 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY

[Text] In case of an oil crisis, or if Brazil were to experience any kind of strangulation of its oil supply, Iraq has assured Brazil that it will come to its help and supply the necessary amount to overcome the crisis. This report has been released by an official source, who added that these emergency situations are also provided for in the broad trade and political agreements signed during the past few days between the two countries.

Our relations with Iraq could become rather ticklish but could also have great potential, namely, nuclear energy. Gen Samuel Alves Correia, the new Brazilian ambassador to Baghdad, yesterday bid farewell to Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro and held a dialog with journalists accredited to Itamaraty. He said: We must sell what they want, citing as negotiable items food, services and weapons.

Regarding exports of nuclear technology to Iraq, General Alves Correia decisively said that if Iraq wants it, and if the Brazilian Government feels that it can sell it, then it will be sold.

EXPORT OF PETROLEUM BYPRODUCTS IN 1980 CONFIRMED

PY111408 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY

[Text] PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] Commercial Director Carlos Sant'anna has voiced guarantees that Brazil will export petroleum byproducts including gasoline this year. Sant'anna did not confirm, however, whether that operation would total $1 billion, knowing that Brazilian exports of petroleum byproducts have provided approximately $300 million annually. He explained that the increased exports of petroleum byproducts is due to increased Brazilian stocks of crude petroleum resulting from the agreement signed with Iraq as a compensation for BRASPETRO's [PETROBRAS branch for overseas operations] withdrawal from the exploitation of the fields of Majnoon and [word indistinct].

BRIEFS

GAS DEPOSIT DISCOVERY--Yesterday the Brazilian Petroleum Corporation (PETROBRAS) reported the finding of a new natural gas deposit in Jurua in the upper Amazon area, 750 km southeast of the city of Manaus. The well, named southeast Jurua-1-AM yielded 540 cubic meters per day, which represents 10 percent of the country's production. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 9 Jan 80 p 26 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER CONDEMNS USSR INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN

PA111506 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2126 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Quito, 9 Jan (EFE)--Foreign Minister Alfredo Pareja has stated that Ecuador, respectful of the principle of nonintervention, rejects the incursion of Soviet troops into Afghanistan. He added: "This is the principle Ecuador has always followed in its foreign policy, as do other Latin American countries. Therefore we have instructed our UN representative simply to agree with the nations protesting the USSR's intervention in a sovereign nation."

With regard to the talks the United States and China have been holding on the matter, the Ecuadorean foreign minister said he could not voice an opinion about what the big powers do among themselves. "We are a small country," he added, "and we only have to be concerned with being alert to defend ourselves as much as possible against intervention by the great powers."

Regarding Iran, he considered that "there is a problem of violation of diplomatic immunities and established conventions," and stressed that Ecuador is against these violations because they are against the principles that inspire its foreign policy.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO ATTEND ANDEAN GROUP MEETING IN BOLIVIA

PA131657 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 13 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Foreign Minister Alfredo Pareja left yesterday for Santa Cruz, Bolivia, to attend the meeting of the first council of foreign ministers of the Andean Group opening today. The organization was created by the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia on 12 November in Lima. Basically, it will coordinate the member nations' position of international affairs.

The Ecuadorean foreign minister later will go to Lima to participate in a working meeting of the Andean foreign ministers with the foreign minister of Brazil on 17 and 18 January. They will discuss Andean Group coordination and cooperation with Brazil.

The foreign minister of Ecuador was accompanied by economist Eduardo Santos, who is the Foreign Ministry under secretary for economic affairs; Dr Rafael Garcia Velasco, adviser on national sovereignty of the Foreign Ministry; and Dr Hernan Veintimilla Salcedo, director of political affairs of the Foreign Ministry.

GOVERNMENT BLAMES COMMUNIST MPD FOR DISTURBANCES

PA111538 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0257 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Quito, 10 Jan (LATIN)--The Ecuadorean Government has accused the communist Popular Democratic Movement (MPD) of promoting the street disturbances which left a toll of one dead student and two injured policemen here today. "The students are being used for political reasons," Government (Interior) Minister Roberto Dunn said at a news conference in his office tonight. Those responsible for the disturbances caused by a student protest against the alleged rise in the prices of staples "are the mercenary extreme leftwingers of the MPD who want to sow chaos and anarchy," he added.

Young Patricio Herman, 18, was shot in the chest and killed this morning during clashes between police and students. Dunn held Edwin Guerrero, MPD member and principal of the Mejia boys high school, directly responsible for the incident. The minister charged that there is leftwing and rightwing collusion to upset the work of the "populist" government of President Jaime Roldos, who marked 6 months in office today. Dunn called on "youths to put a halt to violence."

He voiced his surprise over the protest demonstrations against the rise in the cost of living after the government denied that milk prices would go up and announced a drive against speculators.

Minister Indicts Police in Incidents

PA112236 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] After watching a television Channel Eight newscast that clearly showed a member of the police force shooting at a group of students standing behind a wall in Mejia high school, Government Minister Roberto Dunn Barreiro went last night to the studios of that station to announce that a thorough investigation had been immediately ordered and that the police officer who committed the crime will be arrested. He assured the audience that the person who fired the shots which killed Patricio Herman will be arrested and will be prosecuted. Minister Dunn Barreiro asked the people to remain calm in the face of such a delicate situation. Still addressing the television audience, Minister Dunn Barreiro ordered the release of all those arrested during yesterday's incidents. He asked national police top chiefs and officers to see the video tape in order to identify the person who fired the shots. He said that yesterday's incidents were barbaric and he stressed that severe action will be taken against those who did not comply with the instructions on how to counteract demonstrations.

Minister Dunn Barreiro's television statements differ from the version released yesterday afternoon to the press, in which he told newsmen that the police had nothing to do with the death of the student. Minister Dunn Barreiro had accused the Popular Democratic Movement [MDP] of promoting yesterday's incidents. Dunn Barreiro explained that he was changing his earlier version regarding the incidents based on investigations and after watching the television video tape.

In the meantime Galo Garcia, education and sports minister, announced that Edwin Guerrero, Mejia high school principal, had been dismissed from his job for signing a communique that incited the students to continue the demonstrations. Minister Garcia said that Guerrero has falsely accused the government of being associated with the oligarchy which has directly affected the Ecuadorean people's economy by authorizing a price increase on all basic necessities. This is absolutely false, Minister Garcia indicated. Garcia accused Guerrero of not assuming the responsible, serious and prudent attitude expected from an official in charge of running a school. For this reason, Garcia added, he cannot continue any longer at the head of that school. Minister Garcia also referred to those persons who are blocking the nation's full development based on social justice because they cannot assume a responsible attitude and are not trustworthy. They are only thinking about obstructing government's plans. Minister Garcia yesterday afternoon held a meeting with all the high school principals in this capital to analyze the situation created by the student demonstrations.

Quito School Activities Suspended

PA122237 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] In view of incidents with which the public is familiar by now, the Public Education and Culture Ministry has reiterated that the educational and administrative activities of (?fiscal), private and municipal high schools in Quito will remain suspended until further notice. The ministry's under secretary, Carlos (Arabay) Montes de Oca, told this station: [Begin recording] We believe this entire period, during which there have been a number of disorders and disturbances, does not really lead the youths to a true orientation or a commitment to the country's social problems. It really distorts the role that the new generation must play, the historic role they must play within the national context and within the context of the country's complex problems. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTRY RELEASES STATEMENT ON SAN SALVADOR SITUATION

PA112038 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2009 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Panamanian Foreign Ministry has begun contacts with the members of the Salvadoran Government junta to obtain the release of Panamanian Ambassador to El Salvador David Pere Ramos, who was captured this morning by members of the 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28]. LP-28 members seized the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador and are demanding the release of three prisoners in Berlin, 113 km east of San Salvador. Here is a statement by Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Juan Manuel Castulovich regarding the seizure of the embassy:

[Begin recording] At approximately 1030, around 50 members of the LP-28 of El Salvador occupied the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador in what they described as a peaceful action. Ambassador David Pere Ramos, embassy secretary Maria Teresa Barraza and embassy administrative personnel were in the embassy. Former Costa Rican Ambassador to Panama Alejandro Alvarado Piza was visiting the embassy at the time, accompanied by a civilian attache of the Costa Rican Embassy in El Salvador.

The representatives of the LP-28 have said that the objective of the occupation is to obtain the release of seven members of their group who are currently being held in Berlin, a town in the interior of the country. The specific demand of the occupants of the embassy is the release of the other members of the group.

The information we have received directly from our embassy in Costa Rica [as heard] is that our personnel and Ambassador Pere are fine. Their lives are not in danger. (?We) have established contacts with members of the Salvadoran Government. We have instructed Ambassador Pere to tell the leaders of the group occupying the embassy that if the Salvadoran Government agrees to release the seven prisoners whose release they demand, they can be brought to Panama as a way to solve the problem. The Panamanian Embassy in El Salvador has reported that the leaders of the group occupying the embassy said they could not give an immediate reply to the Panamanian Government's offer because they have to consult with their leaders.

For our part, we have already begun contacts with the Salvadoran Government junta, particularly former Foreign Minister Hector Dada Hirezi, one of the civilian members of the Salvadoran junta. We expressed the Panamanian Government's willingness to receive the seven members of the LP-28 who are imprisoned in Berlin. We have not had a reply to this offer because, as I said before, we do not know if the league leaders will accept Panama's offer. The Salvadoran Government has offered to cooperate in the solution of the problem caused by the occupation. We are optimistic. We think that in view of our offer for the transfer of the league members to Panama and with the intervention of the Salvadoran Government, the incident will end peacefully and without any unfortunate event. [end recording]

Salvadoran Junta Members Contacted

PA120410 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] The president of the republic, Dr Aristides Royo, the commander in chief of the National Guard, Brig Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera and the Panamanian Foreign Ministry today contacted by phone the Salvadoran authorities to try to solve the problem created at our embassy in San Salvador. As soon as information was received here about the occupation of the embassy, President Royo contacted the Salvadoran governing junta by phone, expressing his concern for the holding of the diplomatic personnel, including Ambassador Pere and the Costa Rican ambassador in that country who was paying a visit to the embassy when the occupation took place.

The commander in chief of the National Guard, Brig Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera, also contacted the members of the Salvadoran governing junta to express his concern for the developments at the Panamanian Embassy there.

Meanwhile, Oscar Bonilla, president of the General Association of University Students of El Salvador, visiting Panama, said, referring to the kidnaping at the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador today, that he did not consider the action a kidnaping, but the only way left for the Salvadoran people to obtain some degree of international solidarity by revealing, through the embassy seizure, the repressive activities still underway in El Salvador. He said that the action also serves to unmask the members of the present governing junta and reveal to the world that the situation has not changed in that country as the repression against the people continues as before.

Nicaragua To Mediate Crisis

PA122014 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1917 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Statement by Panamanian President Aristides Royo on situation in Panamanian Embassy in El Salvador at the Las Garzas Presidential Palace, presumably on 12 January; no time given--recorded]

[Text] I spoke 40 minutes ago--while we were in a cabinet meeting--with engineer Hector Dada, a member of the junta. He told us they are already dealing with the hostages, with the captors, and that so far the two groups have accepted Nicaragua as mediator.

Nicaragua will be the mediator. The position of the captors is already known. It deals with the liberation of some arrested persons and of other persons they believe are under arrest and with the end to repression in some villages and towns of El Salvador. The Salvadoran Government is already studying the situation to adopt measures through the Nicaraguan Embassy which is acting as the mediator.

SHAH'S SPOKESMAN QUITS; RUMORS ABOUND

PA120324 Paris AFP in Spanish 0013 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Panama City, 11 Jan (AFP)--It was learned here that Robert Armao, spokesman and assistant of the former shah of Iran, will stop working for the former Iranian monarch and will go to the United States within the next few hours. The report, obtained from responsible sources, also served to further rumors that the former shah might leave Panama within the next few days. Reports from New York revealed today that Mohammad Reza Pahlavi is currently studying the possibilities of finding a new country for his exile with the U.S. Government.

According to the same sources, Armao's departure is in connection with his decision to resume his work with the Rockefeller enterprises where he worked before he started working for the former shah. It was stated, however, that Armao's trip to the United States had nothing to do with the possible departure of the former monarch from his refuge on Contadora Island where he has been residing since 15 December.

A new demonstration to protest the shah's presence in Panama was staged today when student demonstrators marched through several streets of the capital without any incidents with the police. There have been daily demonstrations against the shah's presence in the country ever since he arrived in Panama almost 1 month ago.

COSTA RICA

COMMUNIST DIPLOMATS' EXPULSION CONFIRMED

PA111507 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Vice President Jose Miguel Alfaro has confirmed the expulsion of six diplomats from communist countries. The communist officials had participated in the strike in the Atlantic area and were not duly accredited with our government. According to the vice president, three Cubans, one Russian, one Yugoslav and one Bulgarian have been expelled.

As part of the severe measures adopted by the government against the communist leaders, several others will be expelled in the next few hours.

A labor leader who arrived Saturday from Bulgaria to advise the strikers is among those expelled. It has been learned confidentially that all those expelled belonged to the embassies of Iron Curtain countries.

GOVERNMENT ARRESTS FIVE COMMUNIST LABOR LEADERS

PA111619 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] Five communist labor leaders who were on their way to Limon to participate in the trial of Jesus Campos, secretary of the Agricultural and Plantation Workers Union [Sindicato de Trabajadores Agricolas y de Plantaciones--STAP] were arrested by the public forces yesterday afternoon.

The communist labor leaders, arrested because they were implicated in several alleged crimes, are Fabio Esquivel, Franklin Carvajal, Juan Rafael Espinosa, Arturo Fournier and Jesus Campos.

The release of the communist leaders, arrested yesterday afternoon in Colorado [words indistinct] and in Limon, will be another condition to ending the banana strike in the Atlantic area, Luis Carlos Montero, secretary of the General Workers Confederation, has announced.

According to him, the government is worsening rather than improving the situation because repression of the communist labor leaders and the workers will not be tolerated.

Yesterday afternoon the four labor confederations staged a demonstration to demand that the Standard Fruit Company meet its workers' demands. The demonstration was held in front of the company's installations in San Jose, but since the demonstrators had no authorization to hold their demonstration there, the public force intervened and asked them to leave the area peacefully or else be evicted by force.

CUBAN PRISONERS TO BE RELEASED THROUGH COSTA RICA

PA120119 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1738 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica, 11 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Cuban Immigration Director Comdr Jose Garcia has asked Costa Rica to welcome his country's political prisoners on a stopover before they move to other countries, notably the United States. The prisoners will be released this year according to Fidel Castro's 1979 announcement.

The request was filed with Carlos Aguilar Calderon, the Foreign Ministry's head secretary, who has been appointed by the Costa Rican Government to handle the Cubans' arrival. A total of 15,000 people, 3,000 prisoners to be released and 12,000 of their relatives, would use Costa Rica as an airbridge to leave Cuba and later go primarily to the United States, Venezuela and Spain.

More than 200 Cubans, released prisoners and their relatives, arrived here yesterday.

AUTHORITIES BREAK UP ANTIGOVERNMENT MOVEMENT

PA121603 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1520 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 12 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--According to newspaper reports published today, the National Security Agency "has broken up a subversive movement against the administration of Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo."

According to the information, agents of that agency have arrested approximately 15 persons in various parts of the country. It has been reported that the arrested persons had been agitating striking banana workers in the Atlantic area as well as in southern Costa Rica.

The reports note that those persons, according to documents seized by the police, had a sabotage program. All the arrested persons and the evidence found on them have been put at the disposal of court authorities. A person closely linked to "a foreign power" has been tied to the subversive movement. This communist leader will be arrested and taken out of the country as soon as possible, according to reports.

According to these reports, this foreign communist directly participated in the organization of the strike that has been in effect in the banana farms of the Standard Fruit Company on the Atlantic for approximately 3 weeks.

ACTION TAKEN FOR RELEASE OF AMBASSADOR IN EL SALVADOR

PA111839 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1815 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] In view of the fact that our ambassador to El Salvador, Alejandro Alvarado Piza, has been taken hostage, the Foreign Ministry has issued the following communique:

Today, Friday 11 January, a group of extremists seized the Costa Rican ambassador to El Salvador, Alejandro Alvarado Piza, who was visiting the Panamanian ambassador. Ambassador Alvarado Piza was accompanied by an administrative official of the embassy, Mr David Lopez.

2. The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry has taken action to obtain the prompt release of Ambassador Alvarado Piza.

3. The Foreign Ministry hopes that while these negotiations are underway Ambassador Alvarado Piza will be allowed to take the necessary medicine that doctors prescribed following a recent illness. It must be taken daily.

EL SALVADOR

COVERAGE OF LP-28 TAKEOVER OF PANAMANIAN EMBASSY

LP-28 Demands Issued

PA111804 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] The Salvadoran Armed Forces are currently surrounding the Panamanian Embassy, where members of the 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28] are holding the Panamanian and Costa Rican ambassadors. We have established contact with our correspondent in San Salvador, Carlos Samalloa, giving details from the YSU network:

[Samalloa] This is Carlos Samalloa speaking from the YSU network in San Salvador. A few minutes ago the Panamanian Embassy was seized by members of LP-28. We can state that they are holding Panamanian Ambassador David Pere Ramos and Costa Rican Ambassador Alejandro Alvarado, who was taking care of some business in the embassy. Here is a recording of a telephone conversation we had with members of the LP-28 who are occupying the embassy.

[Begin recording] [unidentified woman] Panamanian Embassy.

[Question] We are calling from YSU. I have just been told that this embassy has been occupied by LP-28 members. Is that true?

[Answer] Yes, it is true. We have peacefully occupied this embassy to make a list of demands. We are protesting the repression by the repressive bodies and we demand the release of the companeros captured in (Berlin) in the massacre. The companeros are Amelia (Noemi Ozorga), Catalino Reyes and Avilio Cruz. We demand their prompt release.

[Question] Could you tell me if you are holding all the embassy personnel?

[Answer] Yes, all of them.

[Question] Including the ambassador?

[Answer] Yes, we have him here.

[Question] How about the consul?

[Answer] Just a minute.

[Question] Of course.

[Man's voice] Hello, who is speaking?

[Question] We are from YSU network. We are asking about the occupation of the embassy. We would like to know if you are holding all of the personnel, including the ambassador and the consul.

[Answer] Listen, we are holding Panamanian Ambassador David Pere Ramos, Costa Rican Ambassador Alejandro Alvarado, civilian Attache Santos David Lopez, Antonio [name indistinct] Villalobos, Counsellor Mrs Maria Teresa Barraza, and Guadalupe Gonzalez de Mendez, attache of the first category and Salvadoran.

[Question] Can you tell me how long the occupation will last?

[Answer] For the time being it is indefinite. We want to take advantage of this opportunity to state that we are surrounded. Police and plainclothesmen with bullet-proof vests have taken up positions in front of this embassy in a threatening attitude. They are aiming their weapons at us. We want to stress that this is a peaceful occupation and that lives must be respected. Our demands are just because our companeros were unjustly captured. They were arrested solely for demanding wage increases for rural workers. We also are demanding a halt to repression in Las Vueltas, Chalatenango and Morazan.

[Question] You say this is a peaceful occupation. Does that mean that those inside the embassy might be released today?

[Answer] Yes, they might be released, depending on the response to our demands. [end recording]

Interview With LP-28 Leader

PA112147 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2027 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Telephone interview by Mario Velasquez with Panamanian Ambassador to El Salvador David Pere and Carlos Guillermo Argueta, leader of the 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28] group that took over the Panamanian Embassy in El Salvador--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Velasquez] Television viewers, we have Ambassador to El Salvador David Pere on the telephone. The embassy was occupied by a guerrilla commando group today. Ambassador Pere, would you please tell the Panamanian people about the situation you, the embassy personnel and the Costa Rican ambassador are in?

[Pere] Well, the embassy staff and I are perfectly well. We are talking to the LP-28 members now and the Costa Rican ambassador, who is here with me. We are waiting to see if the government will do what the group has asked. They have promised us that as soon as that is done, they will release us.

[Velasquez] Ambassador, was anybody in the embassy hurt or injured during the takeover?

[Pere] Mario, there was no act of physical aggression or damage to the embassy. They told us this is a peaceful takeover and nobody has been attacked.

[Velasquez] Ambassador, is your family there with you or just your office employees?

[Pere] We are in the office with just the embassy staff.

[Velasquez] Do you have anything else to tell the Panamanian people right now?

[Pere] I hope the demands of the LP-28 group will be accepted by the Salvadoran Government so this situation can end.

[Velasquez] Have you talked to the Panamanian foreign minister or the president over the telephone concerning the embassy situation right now?

[Pere] That is correct. Foreign Minister Ozores called me about an hour ago, voiced the Panamanian Government's concern and suggested a proposal to be made to the Salvadoran Government. We are trying to find a solution to the problem.

[Velasquez] Ambassador, can you tell me what the Panamanian Government's proposal consists of?

[Pere] The proposal that I have conveyed to the LP-28 and the Salvadoran Government is that the LP-28 members be released and if possible sent to Panama.

[Velasquez] Ambassador Pere, can I talk to Argueta, who is heading the commando group that took over the embassy?

[Pere] I am going to get Mr Argueta.

[Velasquez] Argueta, tell me if you have already contacted the Salvadoran Government to explain why the Panamanian Embassy was taken over and what the government's reaction to the guerrilla commando group's demands has been so far?

[Argueta] First, we want to explain we are not a guerrilla commando group. I repeat we are a mass organization, a political People's front grouping workers, peasants, students and all people's sectors in El Salvador. For a long time we have been making our demands. Since our comrades were unfairly arrested, we have been demanding their release. We have also used all legal channels available to us to demand their release. Yet we have received only negative replies from the military tyrants ruling our country.

[Velasquez] Concerning the political definition you have given of the LP-28, Argueta, I want to ask you how many people were involved in the embassy takeover and whether you are armed?

[Argueta] There are 50 of us. We have only self-defense mechanisms and weapons for the defense of the people. That is due to the fact that repressive action has been intensified because the Salvadoran people are making demands. Due to that repression, the people's organizations have been compelled to use self-defense mechanisms.

[Velasquez] Mr Argueta, if the Salvadoran Government does not meet your demands, what will you do and how long do you intend to stay at the embassy?

[Argueta] We plan to stay here indefinitely until our comrades are released. We also want to note that our action should not be regarded as an attack on the Panamanian or the Costa Rican peoples.

[Velasquez] Can you tell me why the Panamanian Embassy was picked out as the target of this operation?

[Argueta] Because this country has democratic prestige and we thought the government might be made aware of our demands which are strictly democratic and intercede with the Salvadoran Government so our comrades will be released. These are the reasons that led to the takeover of the Panamanian Embassy.

Further Details on Takeover

PA120201 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Members of the 28 February Peoples League [LP-28] at 1100 this morning occupied the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador, taking hostage Panamanian Ambassador David Pere, Costa Rican Ambassador Ricardo Alvarez [as heard], who was making a courtesy visit to the Panamanian diplomatic mission and another nine persons who serve in the Panamanian legation.

The guerrilla organization, which says it has 10,000 members, demands the release of Noemi Astorga, Avilio Cruz, Catalino Reyes, Dionisio Bustillo Macias, Atilio Ruiz, Simon Mercado Pleites and Francisco Torcios Jimenez, who were arrested last 17 December in the city of Berlin in eastern El Salvador in whose jurisdiction they had occupied the Mendez ranch demanding a wage increase. All are being held prisoner in the penal center of the city of (?Usulutan), 110 km from San Salvador.

The occupants of the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador also demanded the withdrawal of a police station in Las Vueltas in northern El Salvador and removal of the police cordon thrown around the Panamanian Embassy, where a total of 12 hostages are being held.

This latter demand has already been satisfied at the request of Panamanian Ambassador David Pere, who talked to the Salvadoran minister of defense.

The Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador is located in Flor Blanca colony, in the south-eastern part of the capital.

A spokesman of the Panamanian diplomatic mission said Ambassador Pere, conducting his own negotiations with his captors, offered asylum to some 45 occupants of the mission, but this offer was turned down. They reiterated their intention to remain there until their comrades are released and a police station is removed from the zone of Las Vueltas.

Besides Ambassadors Pere and Alvarez, Costa Rican attache Santos David Lopez, Panamanian diplomatic and consular personnel and nine employees of the Panamanian Embassy are also in the embassy.

In Panama, the Foreign Ministry announced this afternoon that it had initiated contact with militants of the LP-28 who this morning seized the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador. According to the report of Deputy Foreign Minister Juan Manuel Castulovich, the Panamanian Government offered asylum to the seven militants of the LP-28 for whom the occupants of the Panamian Embassy carried out the action. Castulovich said the offer made by the Panamanian Government could not be replied to immediately, since the occupants of the embassy said they had to consult with leaders of the group.

Castulovich added that the Salvadoran Government had relayed to our government its utmost interest in cooperating to solve this crisis.

Our news director Mario Velasquez also talked by telephone this afternoon with President Aristides Royo, who said that as soon as he learned of the occupation of the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador he had telephoned Mr Hector Dada, former foreign minister and currently a member of the government junta. President Royo said he had expressed to Mr Dada his concern over the fate of the Panamanian officials being held hostage and for the safety of the members of our diplomatic mission.

The president also offered our country as asylum for the group occupying the embassy in the event the offer contributes to solving the problem.

President Royo concluded his statements to Televisora Nacional that Mr Dada had promised to do everything he could to satisfactorily solve the problem the Panamanian Embassy in El Salvador is facing.

LP-28 Issues Further Demands

PA121456 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0614 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[By Adrian Aldana]

[Text] San Salvador, 11 Jan (LATIN)--The 28 February Peoples Leagues (LP-28) are demanding the release of seven prisoners and the reappearance of six other people who are missing. If these demands are met they will vacate the Panamanian Embassy here, according to a communique they issued today.

According to the communique presented to the Panamanian and Costa Rican ambassadors, David Manuel Pere Ramos and Alejandro Alvarado Piza, respectively, they also demand an end to massacres.

"We will not leave until the government junta meets our demands," spokesmen for LP-28 told the LATIN correspondent.

The ambassadors are apparently certain that their situation as hostages will be solved as soon as the Salvadoran Government meets the league's demands.

Official sources said that the government cannot accede to the first demand, in the case of all prisoners under the jurisdiction of the courts. For this reason, it is believed that the situation of the hostages may last several weeks.

However, the government can meet the demands regarding the persons who have not been put on trial. Otherwise, only the courts in charge of their case could release them.

The two ambassadors being held hostage contacted their relatives in El Salvador, Panama and Costa Rica by telephone all day today [words indistinct] situation to their respective foreign ministries.

Meanwhile, there has been an exchange of opinions at a presidential level to find a quick solution to the situation.

Other persons in the embassies besides the ambassadors are Panamanian Embassy Counsellor Maria Teresa Barraza, Santos David Lopez, civilian attache of the Costa Rican Embassy, a woman and a Salvadoran man.

Some 20 LP-28 members are holding the embassy. According to armed forces spokesmen, the security corps have not surrounded the building and will not intervene unless this is requested by the captive diplomats through their respective foreign ministries.

Some Hostages Released

PA121514 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1305 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Raul Beltran Bonilla interview with unidentified 28 February Peoples Leagues militant at the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador on 12 January; recorded--relayed by Panama City Cadena Exitosa]

[Text] [Question] Good morning. Here with you is a 28 February Peoples Leagues (LP-28) spokesman, speaking from the Panamanian Embassy.

[Answer] Good morning. [words indistinct] that yesterday peacefully seized the Panamanian Embassy, taking the Panamanian and Costa Rican ambassadors and all employees as hostages. Yesterday we released two children who had also been taken hostage. They were the children of the maid here at the embassy. The Red Cross brought us food [words indistinct].

We also announce that yesterday about 30 minutes [after the seizure of the embassy] repressive groups initiated a military siege with armored vehicles, in a threatening gesture. The Panamanian ambassador called the defense minister and forced him to remove the armored vehicles.

We also want to inform the government junta that we are awaiting the release of the companions captured in Berlin. They are: Amelia Mejia Astorga, Adilio Cruz (Dionisia Castillo) Macias, Atilio (Roy) Ruiz, Simon Mercado (Pleshette), Francisco Turcio Jimenez, and Catalino Reyes. All of them were captured in Berlin. At present they are under arrest in Usulutan.

We are also giving notice that Companero Amelia Mejia Astorga and Adilio Cruz have been staging a hunger strike since yesterday when we seized the Panamanian Embassy. In other words, these persons, Amelia Mejia Astorga and Adilio Cruz are showing their revolutionary conviction. They are showing that their combative morale has not declined at any time despite the fact that they are under arrest, because their condition as revolutionaries is still firm. Hail the LP-28! For the unity of the peoples' movement!

[Question] What is the state of health of the two diplomats, that is, Costa Rican Ambassador Alejandro Alvarado and Panamanian Ambassador David Pere, particularly the Costa Rican ambassador, who was recently suffering from pulmonary embolism? Has he been receiving medical attention?

[Answer] Yes, he is fine. He has been brought medicines. He called and he is being attended. [words indistinct]

[Question] It is now 2625 here in El Salvador. Could the listeners know if the ambassadors are still resting or if they have already awakened there in the Panamanian Embassy?

[Answer] Apparently they are a bit tired because they helped us yesterday when newsmen came and interviewed them. They were interviewed because they agreed to it, not because we forced them.

[Question] I see. Well, then, is there anything else you would like to tell our listeners? These microphones are at your disposal, as an LP-28 spokesman. Go ahead.

[Answer] We, the LP-28, first of all demand an end to repression in the rural areas of Morazan, Chalatenango and San Juan Opico. People there are being subjected to heavy repression and persecution that forces entire families to abandon their houses and sleep in the mountains in order to avoid being caught by the repressive bodies--National Guard, finance [hacienda] police and the paramilitary bands of the nationalist democratic organization--because the revolutionary government junta has not been satisfied with bloodily massacring the peasants in Berlin, [word indistinct] and Chalatenango, but continues to repress the rural populations. We, the LP-28 members, have determined that any time one of our companions is captured, we will respond with our ideological and political position in order to defend them to the very end.

Demands Further Increased

PA121838 Paris AFP in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 12 Jan (AFP)--The commandos of the 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28], who Friday seized the ambassadors of Costa Rica and Panama in El Salvador as hostages, today increased their demands and are now calling for the release of 15 of their arrested companeros.

Shortly after seizing the Panamanian Embassy, where the Costa Rican ambassador happened to be at the time, the LP-28 asked for the release of three of their members arrested in December in the city of Berlin, 125 km east of San Salvador. Yesterday, their demand was for the release of 9 persons and this morning the demand was increased to 15 persons.

Panamanian Ambassador David Pere and Costa Rican Ambassador Alejandro Alvarado yesterday were able to talk by telephone with Hector Dada (one of the three civilian members of the government junta of El Salvador) tc negotiate their release.

The LP-28 told AFP that the ambassadors' safety has been guaranteed and that the Red Cross had delivered to Alvarado the medicine he needs daily. The LP-28 noted that the occupation of the embassy will be maintained indefinitely until all their arrested companeros are released.

Mediation Talks Called 'Positive'

PA130203 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Report from San Salvador by Ivan Zurita--recorded]

[Text] The situation of the embassy takeover this afternoon is marked by some optimism concerning a solution to the crisis. At the embassy, where we are now, the situation is calm. The 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28] members remain calm and cordial toward the Panamanian and Costa Rican ambassadors, who were taken hostage along with the embassy staff.

The situation seems to be improving somewhat in the negotiations with the Salvadoran Government junta undertaken by Nicaraguan Charge d'Affaires Aldo Diaz Lacayo, whom the parties accepted to be mediator this morning. His initial work, he told us this afternoon, seems positive.

It is expected that the mediation will lead to a solution this afternoon or tomorrow as offers and counteroffers by the parties, the government junta and the LP-28 are discussed. It is possible that the occupiers will accede to the Panamanian Government's proposal to release Costa Rican Ambassador Alejandro Alvarado on account of his health. However, it is also possible that the Costa Rican ambassador would prefer to stay with his Panamanian colleague David Pere if his health continues to hold up.

Meanwile the Panamanian Embassy, on South 41st Avenue in San Salvador, is without police surveillance at the request of our ambasssador. The LP-28 occupiers are allowing accredited newsmen into the embassy, as well as the delivery of clothes, food, drugs and some personal items to the diplomats. They are also receiving aid from the Red Cross, which paid a call at noon.

We repeat that the situation inside the embassy is calm, while the hostages and the occupiers are expecting progress to be made in the negotiations.

This afternoon we talked to Ambassadors Pere and Alvarado, Nicaraguan mediator Diaz Lacayo and members of the occupying group. We noticed a common optimism that leads one to think the crisis may be solved in the next few days through Nicaragua's mediation, which has been added to that of our own country and is regarded in local diplomatic circles as effective.

Here is an interview held at noon by the leader of the LP-28 occupying group, Carlos Argueta:

[Beging recording] [Question] Mr Argueta, do you think Panama's and Nicaragua's mediation will be effective in solving the crisis?

[Answer] Well, we welcome all actions taken and arrangements made to secure our comrades' release.

[Question] Do you think the embassy takeover was appropriate for the goals of the LP-28?

[Answer] Yes, because we have held interviews with the news media of several countries such as Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Mexico and even El Salvador and stated the position of the LP-28. We are a peoples organization and we seek the people's welfare.

[Question] Was the embassy takeover the result of a study of various struggle alternatives?

[Answer] Yes, we think that at this point in our country all we can do is take de facto action to solve the problems of our people. For almost 10 years our people have been struggling by legal and peaceful means and we have been answered only with repression. Therefore, we have been compelled to take de facto action.

[Question] In addition to the release of your comrades in Berlin and other parts of the country, what other conditions have you set so the crisis can be solved?

[Answer] A halt to repression in some rural areas such as Chalatenango Department, more specifically a place known as Las Vueltas, where massacres and the burning of workers' huts have occurred, and a halt to repression in Morazan, where comrades are being persecuted. About 15 days ago a political committee member named Melesio Cruz was arrested. In (Jojuaiquique), Morazan, Comrade Abilio Caballero was also killed. In San Juan Opico, comrades are still being persecuted.

[Question] You said during an interview over the phone with Panama's television channel 2 yesterday that you are brandishing people's weapons made by your movement.

[Answer] Yes. Although we admit that we have some people's weapons to defend ourselves, we are going to use them for that purpose--to defend ourselves. Our people have been struggling for years, and as I said earlier, we have struggled peaceably. However, many massacres have been staged against the people in many places and so our people have been compelled to resort to tools for their legitimate self-defense.

[Question] For the edification of the Panamanian people, could you tell us why the Peoples League are called 28 February?

[Answer] Yes, we are called 28 February in honor of a heroic event, 28 February 1977, when our people rose in the streets of San Salvador, took over the townships around the capital--Mejicanos, (Pocapansingo), San Marcos, Soyapango--and confronted the National Guard in the streets of San Salvador after the electoral fraud that led to Colonel Romero's rule. To honor that heroic date, denoting that our people are determined to rise up and fight to defend their rights, we call ourselves LP-28.

[Question] It has been suggested that the Costa Rican ambassador be released on account of his health. Would you be willing to do that?

[Answer] Well, we have stated that there is a comrade who is a physician here with us who has studied the situation. He thinks the situation is not serious for the moment. The Costa Rican ambassador has been given all the medicine he needs, although if the situation becomes complicated we would immediately release him. However, we would also like to point out that our movement is not being intransigent. On the contrary, we have made a number of concessions. We have allowed telephone calls. We have even released a hostage, two children. [sentence as heard] We have allowed all sorts of liberties. Yet the government has not made any concession to us or given any signs that it wants to solve the problem.

[Question] Who is representing the LP-28 at the negotiating table?

[Answer] A negotiating committee has been appointed and it has reported where it can be reached. The government junta already knows where it can reach them. However, it has not responded so far.

[Question] Has any headway been made in the negotiations through Nicaragua's mediation?

[Answer] Yes. We think this might help find a speedy solution to the problem.

[Zurita] Mr Argueta, thank you for your remarks to this station.

Mexican, Venezuelan Ambassadors Asked To Mediate

PA130214 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Jan 80 PA

[Interview with Carlos Argueta of the 28 February Peoples Leagues at Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador--recorded]

[Text] [Question] How are the negotiations between the government and the 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28] coming for the release of the hostages?

[Answer] So far our movement has issued a public appeal to the Venezuelan and Mexican embassies to mediate with the junta. A short time ago we received a telephone call from the Venezuelan ambassador, who said he accepted our request for mediation, was going to get in contact with our companeros on the negotiating committee and with our political committee and that he was going to begin discussions with the junta to see if our companeros can be released and that there is an end to the repression in the places we mentioned before.

[Question] How are the hostages in the Panamanian Embassy?

[Answer] They are very well. Right now they are playing cards. Their relatives have been able to bring them personal articles, radios and even a television set. They are permitted visits and telephone calls. They are able to make statements to the international press.

[Question] When do you expect to have a reply from the government regarding your list of demands in exchange for the release of the hostages?

[Answer] This is something that does not depend on us. It depends on the government to the extent that it gives us a prompt reply.

[Question] What has been the reply of the Salvadoran authorities to your list of demands?

[Answer] So far we have not received any reply from the government and neither have we seen any intention by the authorities to release [the prisoners] or to accept our demands.

[Question] What would be your position if you do not receive a positive reply from the Salvadoran authorities?

[Answer] Well, we would stay here indefinitely. We are ready to stay here indefinitely under any circumstances. However, we must make it clear that at no time have we thought of acting against the physical integrity of the Costa Rican and Panamanian ambassadors or the embassy personnel.

Solution Expected Soon

PA140017 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The crisis caused by the seizure of the Panamanian Embassy in El Salvador should be solved tomorrow. The ambassadors of Venezuela and Mexico, who have been acting as intermediaries between the Political Committee of the 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28] and the Salvadoran revolutionary junta, said this afternoon that there is good will on both sides and they hope for a prompt solution to the problem.

It was also felt that the statement of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission that the seven imprisoned youths demanded by the LP-28 are alive in Usulutan Prison was seen as very positive. It is expected that tomorrow, 72 hours after the Panamanian Embassy in El Salvador was seized, both the diplomats and the arrested LP-28 members will be liberated.

BPR ACTIVISTS OCCUPY SAN SALVADOR CATHEDRAL

PA132017 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1927 GMT 13 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 13 Jan (LATIN)--Some 20 members of the subversive organization the People's Revolutionary Bloc [BPR] seized the metropolitan cathedral this morning while San Salvador Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero was about to finish his homily, a church spokesman said.

The prelate had criticized kidnapings and the taking of hostages, specifically mentioning the occupation of the Panamanian Embassy, the kidnaping of South African Ambassador Archibald Gardner Dunn and the capture of a national guardsman in Arcatao, 130 km north of here.

Archbishop Romero asked for mercy for the hostages during the homily. He told the BPR group that, if they truly represent the people, they should not torment people who have no responsibility whatsoever for the events taking place in this convulsed country.

MILITARY UNITS SEARCH BORDER AREA FOR ARMED LEFTISTS

PA120246 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2308 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Santa Ana (El Salvador), 11 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Military units of this city, 66 km west of San Salvador, were sent today to the "El Trifinio" region in northern El Salvador, and bordering Guatemala and Honduras, to investigate the possible penetration of heavily armed leftists.

The security authorities told ACAN-EFE that the mountainous region is being searched in view of reports on the presence of unidentified individuals who entered the country illegally with all kinds of weapons.

A military cordon has been established along the border with Guatemala in the northwestern Cuzcatleca region in order to surround the extremists who, it is presumed, arrived from mountainous areas in Guatemala and Honduras.

GUATEMALA

CONGRESS PRESIDENT CONDEMNS SOVIET INVASION IN AFGHANISTAN

PA112312 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The president of the National Congress today condemned the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. The Soviet Union's decision to intervene militarily in Afghanistan is condemnable. Apparently, the president of the National Congress stated, the Russians were not satisfied with promoting internal subversion in the country and now are even trying to impose their way of life on another member of the international community. The president of the National Congress said he condemns such a deplorable act by the Soviet Union as a crime.

Regarding the national situation, the president of the National Congress said a crisis in Guatemala can be avoided if the sectors in power assume a more just attitude. Polanco noted we must benefit from the lessons we have received from Nicaragua and from what is happening in El Salvador.

TWO GUERRILLAS KILLED IN CLASH WITH ARMY PATROL

PA120259 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2127 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 11 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The guerrillas operating in the western part of Guatemala suffered two new casualties in a clash with a military patrol, according to a report today from the national army's Public Relations Office. Three other wounded rebels were evacuated by their comrades, while the army reported two "slightly" injured soldiers.

The guerrillas--according to the military report--used women and children from the "San Pablo el Baldio" community, in the jurisdiction of El Quiche, as shields "with the obvious purpose of provoking a tragedy between civilians and enlisted men."

Due to the presence of civilians who were forced by the guerrillas to walk ahead of them, the patrol decided to withdraw. This allowed the rebels the chance to escape into the mountains.

The military report concludes by indicating that "the pursuit and mopping up operations in the area continue without interruptions."

During these operations, which started during the last 3 months of 1979, some 10 other guerrillas and 3 soldiers, including an officer who was ambushed together with his patrol, have been killed.

NICARAGUA

U.S. PEOPLE CONTINUE TO SHOW SOLIDARITY

PA121420 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The U.S. people continue to show their solidarity with the Nicaraguan people. The propaganda of the Somozists and of Yankee imperialists, such as John Murphy, did not in any way damage the conscience of solidarity that the brotherly people of the United States have with our free, red and black, and Sandinist fatherland. Revolutionary Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra has received a donation for more than 4.5 million cordobas sent by Wisconsin Governor Lee S. Dreyfus. The companeros general consuls in Houston, Romeo Lopez and (Jalimas Sirquer) de Lopez, delivered the donation. It consists of surgical equipment and medicines for the flood victims on the Atlantic coast. A small emergency hospital is also included.

COSTA RICAN FISHERMEN CAPTURED, RELEASED

PA121852 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Nicaraguan Coast Guard units on Wednesday captured six Costa Rican boats while they were fishing in Nicaragua's territorial waters. The motorboats were seized when the Costa Rican fishermen were in the middle of placing trammel nets for sharks.

The fishermen were caught when they were approximately 3 km away from San Juan del Sur, but inexplicably they were released a few hours after their capture. Nicaraguan Natural Resources and Environment Institute [IRENA] spokesmen have stated that the 12 crewmembers of these motorboats were released without penalty. However, they noted, three Nicaraguan sailors have been held prisoner in Costa Rica for 9 months, along with their fishing boats. The detained Nicaraguan boats are the Don Tomas, (El Faro) and (Banda Clara). All the fishermen are from San Juan del Sur. It is for this reason that the townspeople, especially the fishermen, when they discovered that the Costa Ricans had been released, were opposed to their leaving and would not let the ships sail off, alluding to the prolonged imprisonment of their companeros. IRENA spokesmen have noted that cases similar to this of San Juan del Sur have occurred in other ports, where military officials have simply released captured persons, generally without imposing any sanction.

RELATIONS WITH NEW SALVADORAN JUNTA TO CONTINUE

PA120250 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2305 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Government still recognizes the civilian-military junta ruling in El Salvador following today's official notification that it has been reshuffled. A communique by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, which is under Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, has reported. It says, "Nicaragua trusts it can maintain and further fraternal relations with the Salvadoran people and government through the new authorities."

Following the recent resignation of three junta members, the Salvadoran junta was reshuffled yesterday when Dr Hector Dada Hirezi, Dr Jose Antonio Ehrlich and Dr Jose Ramon Avalos were administered the oath of office and National Guard Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano and Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez were confirmed in office. On behalf of the Sandinist revolutionary government, the Foreign Ministry communique conveyed to them "our esteem and appreciation."

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION RESHUFFLE ANNOUNCED

FL111255 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 11 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The newspaper GRANMA, official organ of the party Central Committee, today publishes the complete texts of two resolutions of the Council of State and a decree law and a decree of the highest organs of the state and government:

The Council of State decree law establishes a reduction in the number of organizations of the state central administration by means of the dissolution of some and transfer of their powers and functions to other existing organizations. For this reason, the following are abolished: The State Committee for Science and Technology; the State Committee for Construction; the ministries of the Electric Power Industry, the Construction Materials Industry and the Chemical Industry; the Mines and Geology Ministry; the Institute of Domestic Demand Research and Orientation; the Children's Institute; and the Institute of Forestry Development and Exploitation.

The Center for Housing Study and Control also is abolished, and its powers and functions are transferred to the Ministry of Construction. The powers, functions, obligations and rights of the Ministry of Agriculture with regard to sugar harvest agricultural activity are transferred to the Ministry of the Sugar Industry.

This decree law also stipulates that the Council of Ministers Executive Committee will arrange the organization and structure of the state central administration organizations which are transferred and assume the functions and powers of the ones declared abolished.

One of the Council of State resolutions concerning the aforementioned decree law establishes corresponding changes in the management of various organization of the state central administration and, therefore, in the composition of the Council of Ministers. The resolution points out that due to the abolition of the organizations they headed, the following comrades terminate their respective positions of president of state committee, minister or institute president: Zoilo Marinello, Levi Farah, Jose Luis Beltran, Jose Valle Roque, Antonio Esquivel, Manuel Cespedes, Eugenio Rodriguez Balari, Electra Fernandez and Jose Ponce Diaz. It also replaces Comrades Oscar Fernandez Padilla, Rafael Francia Mestre, Marcelo Fernandez Font, Asela de los Santos, Marcos Lage, Nora Frometa, Aniba Velaz, Lester Rodriguez, Armando Torres Santrayll, Jose A. Fernandez Cuervo and Joaquin Gongora in their respective positions of chiefs of organizations of the state central administration. They will be assigned other functions.

This resolution appoints Comrade Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado to the position of minister of justice, performing this function simultaneously with that of vice president of the Council of Ministers which he currently holds. Joel Domenech is appointed minister of the basic industry, performing this function simultaneously with that of vice president of the Council of Ministers which he currently holds. Diocles Torralba is appointed minister of the sugar industry and he also will hold this new position simultaneously with that of vice president of the Council of Ministers.

Jose Ramon Fernandez is appointed minister of education. He will hold the new position simultaneously with the responsibility of vice president of the Council of Ministers which he currently holds. Arnaldo Milian is appointed vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of agriculture, holding both functions simultaneously. Osmany Cienfuegos will be vice president of the Council of Ministers, a function that he will perform along with the responsibilities of secretary of the Council of Ministers and its Executive Committee which he currently holds.

Comrade Joaquin Benavides will hold the position of president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security and Ricardo Cabrizas will assume the responsibility of minister of foreign trade.

The resolution also appointed Comrades Manuel Millares, Jorge A. Fernandez Cuervo, Marcos Lage, Jose Luis Padron, Antonio Esquivel, Jorge Lezcano and Levi Farah to hold the positions of ministers of light industry, fish industry, iron and steel machinery industry; president of the National Institute of Tourism and ministers of government [as heard], respectively.

The Council of State also decided to terminate Comrade Jose Santiago Cuba Fernandez in the position of attorney general of the republic and appoint Comrade Idalberto L. de Guevara Quintana to this position.

A decree signed by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of Ministers, resolves to distribute the attention, control and coordination of the work of state central administration organizations among the members of the Council of Ministers Executive Committee. It also stipulates that Council of Ministers Vice Presidents Ramiro Valdes, Diocles Torralba and Jose A. Lopez Moreno will perform their [council] functions simulatenously with those of ministers of interior, sugar industry and construction industry respectively.

Members' Functions Outlined

FL111412 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpts] Article 3 of Decree Law 31 points out that the powers and functions of the [abolished] State Committee for Science and Technology are assigned to the Academy of Sciences of Cuba. Article 3 assigns the powers and functions of the abolished Children's Institute to the Ministry of Education. Likewise, the Ministry of Basic Industry which was created by Decree Law 31, will be assigned the functions and powers of the ministries of the Chemical Industry, the Electric Power Industry and Mines and Geology; the Domestic Trade Ministry is assigned those of the Cuban Institute of Domestic Trade Research and Orientation; and the Agriculture Ministry is assigned the ones of the National Institute of Forestry Development and Exploitation. The Construction Ministry will be assigned the powers and functions of the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry and State Committee for Construction.

Other appointments were those of Antonio Esquivel and Jorge Lezcano Perez to the position of government ministers and to perform the functions they may be assigned by the chief of state and government. Levi Farah Balmaseda also was appointed government minister and will continue taking care of construction abroad.

Article 18 of Law 1,323 of 30 November 1976 grants the president of the Council of Ministers the power to distribute the attention, control and coordination of the work of state central administration organizations among the members of the Council of Ministers' Executive Committee. By virture of this power, it is resolved to distribute the attention, control and coordination of the work of the state central administration organizations among the members of the Council of Ministers Executive Committee as follows:

The president of the Council of Ministers, besides the functions inherent to his position, will take direct charge of the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Culture.

The first vice president, Comrade Raul Castro Ruz, will collaborate with the president on these tasks and the others inherent to his position.

Comrade Guillermo Garcia Erias, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of transportation, will be responsible for the Ministry of Communications.

Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of Ministers, will be responsible for the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the National Bank of Cuba and the Ministry of Foreign Relations.

Comrade Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of justice, will be responsible for the State Committee for Standardization and the system of arbitration organs.

Comrade Arnaldo Milian Castro, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of agriculture, will be responsible for the Ministry of the Food Industry.

Comrade Joel Domenech Benitez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of basic industry, will be responsible for the Ministry of Iron and Steel Machinery Industry.

Comrade Elavio Bravo Prado, vice president of the Council of Ministers, will be responsible for the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ministry of Domestic Trade and the Ministry of the Fish Industry.

Comrade Jose R. Fernandez Alvarez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of education, will be responsible for the Academy of Sciences of Cuba. The Ministry of Higher Education; the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation; and Cuban Radio and Television Institute.

Comrade Osmany Cienfuegos Gorriaran, vice president of the Council of Ministers, will be responsible for the State Committee for Technical and Material Supply, the State Committee for Finance, the State Committee for Labor and Social Security and the National Institute of Tourism.

Comrade Humberto Peres Gonzalez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Central Planning Board, will be responsible for the State Committee for Prices, the State Committee for Statistics and the National Institute of Automated Systems and Computer Technology.

AFP Comments on Reshuffle

PA131622 Paris AFP in English 1356 GMT 13 Jan 80 PA

[By Jacques Thomet]

[Text] Havana, Jan 14 (AFP)--A drastic overhauling of Cuba's government machine launched in the past 48 hours is seen by observers here as President Fidel Castro's answer to what the regime openly expects to be a very bleak year indeed for the economy. To treat the variety of Cuban ills that leaders here delicately refer to in their speeches as the shortcomings of socialism, the Council of State Friday promulgated a whole roster of remedial measures. They will afford a tighter grip on the Ministeries of Defence, the Interior, Health, and Culture to Fidel Castro and his younger brother, Raul, whom observers here rank as No 2 in the regime. President Castro has taken direct charge of these ministries at a time when he has undertaken an increased burden of work as president for the next three years of the non-aligned movement. It had been predicted that he would even have to transfer some of his presidential duties to a younger brother.

A hint of the new reforms [words indistinct] read between the lines of speeches Raul Castro made last October and November in which he referred to forthcoming measures, without actually specifying what they would be.

He also hit out at flabbiness in the administration and the [word indistinct] deploring Cubans' (?back of) discipline at work. In the radical administrative streamlining, nine ministers and the chief public prosecutor were sacked and a number of ministeries and government [word indistinct] were either polished [as received] or merged with other bodies.

A minor cabinet reshuffle on Dec 14, the first since this regime's constitution was promulgated in 1976, appears to have contributed to the kind of improvement now being sought. The December reshuffle put veteran guerrillero Ramiro Valdes at the head of the Interior Ministry. Mr Valdes, who fought alongside Fidel Castro in the civil war that in 1959 ended in the ousting of dictator Fulgencio Batista, is viewed by observers as an energetic administrator. His appointment heralded what is evidently a return in strength of Fidel Castro's revolutionary brothers-in-arms from the old guerrilla days in the Sierra Maestra.

Among these old-guard promotions are Justice Minister Osvaldo Dorticos, who was Cuban president from 1959 to 1976, Agriculture Minister Arnaldo Milian, Sugar Industry Minister Diocles Torralba, Education Minister Jose Ramon Fernandez, and Basic Industries Joel Domenech. Conspicuously absent from the promotion list, however, is Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, a vice-premier in the cabinet who has not been given a ministry. Mr Rodriguez was a leader of the Peoples Socialist (Communist) Party before the revolution.

PCC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER CELIA SANCHEZ DIES

FL112119 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 11 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpt] Today at 1150 (1650 GMT) following a prolonged sickness Comrade Celia Sanchez Manduley, member of the PCC Central Committee, secretary of the Council of State and deputy to the People's Government National Assembly died. About 2 and 1/2 years ago Comrade Celia had surgery. The success of the surgery along with her proverbial strong will allowed her to prolong her valuable life and continue providing the country and people with her unselfish revolutionary services.

Nevertheless, despite the tenacious struggle waged by the doctors it was impossible to prevent the end which occurred today. The body of the exemplary Cuban revolutionary, who was a heroic combatant of the clandestine struggle and the rebel army and a leader of the socialist party and state, will lie in state beginning at 2000 (0100 GMT) today at the base of the Jose Marti monument located in the Plaza of the Revolution. There the workers and all the nation, to whom she devoted her whole life, will pay her the homage she deserves due to a life of combat filled with merit and virtue.

Country Mourns

FL112141 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 11 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpt] Tomorrow at 1500 (2000 GMT) Comrade Celia Sanchez will be buried at the Revolutionary Armed Forces pantheon with the honors due her historical and revolutionary position. The Council of State of the Republic of Cuba has decreed official mourning from 1600 (2100 GMT) on 11 January until 1800 (2300 GMT) tomorrow 12 January 1980.

The country is in mourning. One of its most unswerving and loyal daughters has fallen. She was an untiring combatant, a heroine of the Cuban revolution. Men, women and children, workers, peasants and students, all working people to whom with infinite love she devoted her evergy and intelligence up to the last moments of her life, will demonstrate with profound sorrow their appreciation and love by massively accompanying her mortal remains to their final resting place.

Her example, ideas and cause will forever remain in the hearts and memory of the people whom she actively helped to forge the glory of which she was a part--the Cuban revolution. All of her virtues will be the basis for new endeavors for the present and future generations, signed, PCC Central Committee.

Council of State Decree

FL112213 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2106 GMT 11 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Council of State decree:

Whereas, at 1150 (1650 GMT) today Comrade Celia Sanchez Manduley, member of the PCC Central Committee, deputy to the People's Government National Assembly and secretary of the Council of State, died as a result of prolonged illness;

Whereas, Comrade Celia Sanchez Manduley was prominent for her extraordinary revolutionary merits in the clandestine struggle and in the Sierra Maestra and following the triumph of the revolution, and gave all her energies and enthusiasm to the consolidation of our socialist revolution;

Whereas, her noble and fecund revolutionary and human action deserves the fervent appreciation of all Cuban people who feel this irreparable loss as their own.

Therefore, the Council of State has adopted the following agreement:

First, to declare official mourning on the occasion of the death this morning of Comrade Celia Sanchez Manduley, member of the PCC Central Committee, deputy to the People's Government National Assembly and secretary of the Council of State, from 1600 (2100 GMT) on 11 January 1980 until 1800 (2300 GMT) 12 January 1980.

Second, to arrange for the national flag to fly at half mast at public and military buildings from 1600 (2100 GMT) today until 1800 (2300 GMT) tomorrow.

Third, the ministers of foreign relations and the Revolutionary Armed Forces are in charge of carrying out what is stated in this decree.

Issued at the Palace of the Revolution in Havana City on 11 January 1980. Signed, Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of State.

Funeral Service Begins

FL122038 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Service in Spanish on 12 January continues live black-and-white television coverage of Celia Sanchez Manduley's funeral, which began at 1600 GMT. At 1955 GMT Cuban President Fidel Castro and other members of the PCC Politburo take up positions as the final honor guard watching over the remains of Celia Sanchez. At 1956 the Cuban Government leaders then leave the funeral hall. At 2201 GMT the floral shroud is removed from the coffin. Fidel and Raul then pay their final respects and the coffin is then closed at 2002 GMT and a Cuban national flag is draped over the coffin.

The honor guard then raises the coffin and takes it from the funeral hall as a funeral march is played by a military band. Fidel and Raul Castro follow the coffin out of the hall. The coffin is then placed on the funeral carriage. The honor guard is then called to attention. Fidel and Raul Castro lead the funeral procession, followed by other members of the PCC Politburo and the visiting Nicaraguan delegation. They are then followed by PCC Secretariat members and other Cuban leaders, officials and the rest of the funeral procession. The funeral procession begins on foot at 2007 GMT following the military jeep and limber transporting the coffin.

Fidel and the rest of the PCC Politburo are in the first line of the funeral procession. Then come other members of the funeral procession, followed by the Cuban people. Three cars with floral wreaths lead the procession, followed by the military band, then the military honor guard, the funeral carriage and then Fidel Castro and the rest of the funeral procession. At 2013 GMT the military band begins playing the 26 July march as the funeral procession enters Paseo Street. Television announcer Manolo Ortega describes the scene as the funeral procession proceeds down the street.

At 2027 GMT the funeral procession enters Zapata Street. At 2032 GMT Havana television begins coverage from the Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--pantheon in the Colon Cemetery. Another television announcer takes over describing the scene of the ceremony as the television cameras pan the pantheon awaiting the entrance of the funeral procession into the cemetery.

Hart Gives Funeral Oration

FL122115 [Editorial Report FL] At 2046 GMT the funeral procession is seen entering the Colon Cemetery. At 2048 GMT Fidel Castro and the other leaders of the Cuban Government are seen entering the cemetery. The military band is heard playing the 26 July march. At 2051 GMT the funeral carriage comes to a halt in front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR---pantheon and the military band stops playing. At 2052 GMT the funeral procession starts up again and the military band plays a funeral march. At 2054 GMT the funeral carriage comes to a halt. The honor guard then removes the Cuban national flag from the coffin. Fidel Castro and the rest of the procession stand at attention. At 2033 GMT the coffin is removed from the limber by the honor guard and is taken to the niche that is to hold the coffin. It is then placed inside the niche. The procession is then called to attention. The Cuban national anthem is played as a gun salute is given. The troops are then called to attention. At 2058 GMT taps are played. Fidel Castro and the other leaders then take their places for the funeral oration.

At 2059 GMT PCC Politbuto member Armando Hart goes to the podium to give the funeral oration. Hart begins by recounting Celia's role in the liberation struggle as the close aide of Fidel Castro.

Sanchez Lies in State

FL121407 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Celia Sanchez Manduley's funeral procession will begin at 1500 (2000 GMT) from the base of the Jose Marti monument in the Plaza of the Revolution, where her body is lying in state. The nation, which has turned out to pay posthumous honor to the heroic and dear communist leader, will accompany the funeral cortege to Zapata and Eight streets near the Colon Cemetery, where she will be buried. Only her relatives, leaders of the party and state, representatives of workers, political and mass organizations and the comrades who were closest to the dear comrade will be allowed into the cemetery due to lack of room inside.

The funeral oration for Comrade Celia Sanchez can be heard in the areas around the cemetery on loudspeakers set up for this purpose. It will also be transmitted by the national radio and television stations.

The Central Organization of Cuban Workers and its trade unions in Havana City Province have issued a call to all workers to pay posthumous honor to Comrade Celia Sanchez Manduley. The notable loss of one who was an unselfish combatant in the clandestine struggle and in the Sierra Maestra and an untiring fighter for building and strengthening socialism in Cuba has caused a sense of deep loss among all workers.

A message from the Federation of Cuban Women states that today our people have lost a glorious figure who gave prominence to the role of women in the revolutionary struggle, who knew how to win the respect and love of all sons of the homeland by her heroism in all tests, by her simplicity and modesty, by her exemplary behavior and by her total commitment to every task needed to build the new society.

For its part, the message from the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] states that the loss of our dear Celia is cause for deep sorrow to all CDR members. The recollection of her life serves to ease the sorrow. Now we see Celia in the trenches as an exemplary combatant, in voluntary work and as an outstanding CDR member, and her example makes us believe she is still here, always here alongside the people in building socialism.

The coffin containing the remains of Comrade Celia has been covered with a shroud and orchids and has been placed at the base of Jose Marti Monument in the Plaza of the Revolution. On a white sash laying over the flowers one can read: To Celia, from Fidel.

Since 2000 (0100 GMT) yesterday when the Circular Hall was opened, where the coffin has been placed, an unending line of men, women, old people and children have been viewing the remains. Throughout the night they came to pay a final tribute to the unforgettable comrade. The coffin has been placed in the center of the hall. The surrounding walls have been covered with violet-colored pleated cloth, the same color as the shroud, giving the setting a sense of solemnity and sad beauty. Celia is dressed in her olive-green uniform, immobile as we never wanted to see her.

Included among those present was Fidel. She dedicated her whole life to his glorious cause and to Cuba. Others present included Raul and other members of the PCC Central Committee Politbuto and Secretariat and Council of State, along with other leaders of organs and mass organizations.

Viewing Opens, Diplomats Attend

FL121508 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1215 GMT 12 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpt] Shortly before 2000 (0100 GMT) yesterday, Friday, the coffin containing the remains of Comrade Celia Sanchez was placed in the main hall at the base of the Marti Monument in the Plaza of the Revolution. Our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro accompanied the funeral cortege along with Celia Sanchez' family members.

Moments later, amid an imposing silence, the family members of the dear comrade began lining up to view the remains, along with comrades in arms and students of the party's provincial school. A great Cuban flag is raised majestically behind the coffin.

At exactly 2000 (0100 GMT) yesterday the honor guard took up its post. The Palace of the Revolution ceremonial and credentials battalion took the first watch. Members of the Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee, ministers and leaders of mass organizations headed the funeral review. The first honor guard was taken by workers of the Central Committee, Council of State and other organizations, as well as by combatants from the Sierra Maestra.

One hour after the start of the funeral viewing, members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba went to the hall where the remains of Celia Sanchez lay in state to express their condolences on her death. Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca received the messages of sorrow from the diplomats, who moments later viewed the remains.

Among the moments of greatest emotion during last night's official and public mourning in our country was the presence in the funeral hall of the parents of the unforgettable hero of Yaguajay, Maj Camilo Cienfuegos.

Along with the long line at the Plaza of the Revolution, floral wreaths continue to arrive from family members, friends and comrades in arms. Prominent on the gray coffin is a shroud of orchids sent by our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

Up to this writing, tens of thousands have viewed the remains, reflecting the profound sorrow of our people for the death of one of their greatest and dearest heroines of the last and definitive liberation struggle.

Nicaraguan Leaders Arrive

FL121938 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1905 GMT 12 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Today Comdrs Humberto Oterga and Bayardo Arce, members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Directorate, have traveled to Havana at the head of a delegation to attend the funeral service for the heroic Celia Sanchez. Ortega is also commander in chief of the Sandinist popular army and minister of defense. The delegation also includes guerrilla Comdr Dora Maria Tellez and Carlos Carrion, members of the FSLN.

Celia Sanchez' death resulted in immediate responses of condolence. The main leaders of the Nicaraguan revolution have sent messages to the Cuban Government and people.

At a mass rally held last night in Managua on the occasion of the closing of the commemoration of the assassination of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro there was a minute of silence in honor of Celia Sanchez.

MANY PEOPLE RUMORED TO BE ARRESTED IN HAVANA

PA120433 Paris AFP in Spanish 0002 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Havana, 11 Jan (AFP)--Persistent rumors about the arrest of many persons and the reinforcement of police control over the past few days in Cuba circulated here today.

According to concurrent reports by diplomatic sources, the number of Cubans arrested varies between 2,000 and 3,000 while no reason for the arrests has been given. Nothing has been published so far by the authorities or the local press. It was mentioned, however, that these arrests could be the result of the appearance of leaflets and posters hostile to the regime in some neighborhoods of Havana.

It has been impossible to establish if the persons arrested were detained because of common crimes within the framework of a campaign against crime recently launched against trafficking in gasoline coupons. A police operation carried out on the night of 30 December was described as effective by the press but the number of criminals caught was not revealed.

Cubans have observed an increase in police control of buses and private cars in Havana. Several persons mentioned vehicle searches mainly on leaving Havana. The police are also searching buses while they are still running, conducting identity checks and imposing fines on persons who do not have their identification papers. A witness told AFP that he saw the police discover whole pieces of a horse in the trunk of a car during one of the checks near Lenin Plaza in southern Havana. If this increase in security checks is confirmed, it coincides with the appointment of Interior Minister Ramiro Valdes, who has been in office for less than 1 month but who has been described as a hardliner.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

GOVERNMENT DENOUNCES CUBAN TERRORIST TRAINING IN GRENADA

FL111735 Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 9 Jan 80 p 1 FL

[Staff reporter]

[Text] Scores of Trinidadians are now undergoing training in terrorism, sabotage and guerrilla warfare by Cubans in Grenada, a senior government official said last night. And the presence of such a group of people skilled in the use of sophisticated explosives, arms, ammunition and terror tactics is sending shock waves through the state's national defence circles, the spokesman said.

He said government was alarmed over the growing threat of militant people with leftist leanings seeking highly specialised training from socialist countries. Over the past three months some 75 Trinidadians have undergone "commando-type" training in Grenada which changed government in a Cuban-backed coup last March 13 in which several persons were killed.

Handpicked

The official said since Maurice Bishop installed himself as prime minister of Grenada more than 200 locals have gone to the island under the guise of visitors for "specialised training." Government, he said, was monitoring the situation carefully and had scores of people returning from the island under close observation.

The spokesman said the demand for entry into the Grenada school of terrorism gained impetus with the launching of a communist party in Trinidad and Tobago last August. It seemed that trainees were handpicked by leftist groups and certain trade union leaders operating under cover, it was pointed out.

The source said that with the terror training by the militants, a number of incidents have taken place in Trinidad recently to show that the group is a powerful force and a serious threat to the country. To cite examples of the group's training, he said, over the past months the number of incidents involving bomb hoaxes, bomb explosions and bomb discoveries increased a hundred-fold over the same period locals started schooling in Grenada. Police and bomb disposal experts have linked undetonated bomb and other explosive devices found at bombing targets as similar to those made by Cuban agents.

It was noted that with the new revolutionary government in the saddle in Grenada, it provided a haven for any group in sympathy with socialist ideologies to seek secret training without fear of raising suspicion in their home country. Trinidad and Tobago no longer has safe hideouts in the mountainside to facilitate guerrilla training since the marijuana planters have been hounded by the police helicopter squad which has been scouring the rugged hills. In this respect, it was pointed out, Grenada, a Cuban satellite, offered the necessary cover for "tourists" selected to be trained in "liberating their respective countries?"

The Ministry of National Security and police have been tight lipped over the Grenada connection, but a coastal watch in Tobago imposed two days after the Grenada coup is still in force, said the police. The "GUARDIAN" learnt last night that the government was watching the "made in Grenada terrorists with the Cuban stamp" closely.

Over the past months, Mr. Bishop has denied that Cubans have been playing a major role in spreading terrorism from Grenada to other Caribbean islands. When Mr. Bishop ousted Sir Eric Gairy from the prime ministership, a number of governments in the region hailed the move but the Trinidad and Tobago Government declined to comment.